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An Indian merchant wished to dispose of an old elephant and took it to a fair. As soon as he had arrived he noticed a man who, without saying a word, began to walk round the animal, examining it attentively on all sides. The merchant became very anxious, for he feared the man had found out that his elephant was not worth much. He took him aside and whispered in his ear: "I see a customer coming. Do not say a word until I have sold the beast and I will give you 50 rupees." The man looked at the merchant and wonderingly complied with his request. It happened that the customer had more money than sense, so that he was easily taken in. When the bargain was completed and the elephant led away by its new owner, the merchant handed the 50 rupees to the silent man, saying: "Now, I want you to tell me how you discovered the defect in his left leg. I thought I had con-cealed it so skilfully." "I have discealed it so skilfully." "I have dis-covered nothing," replied the stranger. It is the first elephant I have ever seen, and I wanted to know which was the head and which was the tail'

HIS FIRST LITERARY EFFORT. Indian Viceroy Departed from His

Not Likely Among the "Six Best Sellers" of That Year.

A party of friends had gathered in the author's house to congratulate himon the success of his new book. They were extravariantly enthusiastic, as friends are apt to be on such occasions, and the young author was swelling visibly. The author's mother Finally one of the guest beamed. turned to her. "Tell me, did your son show symptoms of literary genius at an early age? I presume he did, and you've get some baby effusion treasured away." "I have the first letter he ever wrote me," said the mother smilling, "and maybe you'd call it his first literary effort. He was on a visit to his grandmother's and he had never visited her without me before But maybe you'd like to hear the let-The guests chorused "Yes" eagter." The mother produced a crumpled envelope and paper and read "Dear Mama-The dogs is awful thick here. Your loving son."

Plant Like a Camel.

The pearest thing to a camel among plants is a curious specimen of the cucumber family which bears the name of the Ibercillea soborae. This plant, like the camel, is a native of the desert and it has to go without water longer than the animal. As the rainy season in the desert comes only once a year nature provides the I. S. with a reservoir to store up enough moisture to last it between times. The organ in which the water is stored is located at the base of the stem. It is covered with a sort-of mackintosh envelope, through which the water can neither escape nor evap-This water holder rests on the sand throughout the entire period of drought, but when the rain comes it springs into activity.

Pointer for Husbands.

When you have married your wife, ou would think you were got upon a hilltop, and might begin to go downward by an easy slope. But you have only ended courting to begin marriage. Falling in love and winning love are often difficult tasks to over bearing and rebellious spirits; but to keep in love is also a business of some importance, to which both man and wife must bring kindness and good-The true love story commences at the altar, when there lies before the married pair a most beautiful contest of wisdom and generosity, and a lifelong struggle toward an unattainable ideal. Unattainable? Aye, surely unattainable, from the very fact that they are two instead of one .- R. L.

Doctor's Rich Fee from American.

A French nerve doctor was called to treat an American visitor for acute neuralgis. Electricity was applied has a with excellent results. The patient, hands." gratified, promised to send the doctor a check. The next day the medico was astonished to deceive a check for £1,000. He went and asked if a mistake had not been made and received further expressions of gratitude. A few days later the American sent title deeds for a house near Arc de Triomphe of the value of 1,000,000 franca. Gil Blas vouches for the story and says the doctor has just moved into the house given him.

The Fool of the Family.

Primogeniture had engaged so much of a young American's hostile attenthat his companion, who happened to be the heir to an earldom, felt constrained to apologize for it. has its advantages," he said, mildly; "it makes but one fool in a family, you know." "All my younger brothers 'amount' to something, as you Americans put it," he further explained. "One of them is in the army, another in the navy, and the third lives and works in the east end of London."-Youth's Companion

Something in Oils.

She approached the floorwalker and asked: "Where shall I find something nice in oil for the dining-room?" "On the fifth-" began the floorwalker. Then pausing, he looked doubtfully at the inquirer. "Do you want a painting or something in the sardine line?" -Success Magazine.

FIFTY RUPEES EASILY MADE. FREAK PLAYS IN ROYAL GAME.

Records on Golf Grounds Very Much Out of the Ordinary.

On one occasion a player capped himself to the extent of playing his shots with one leg held up, and the only crumb of satisfaction that some people can get out of the story is that the man missed nearly every shot and lost his wager. Also, who has not heard of men trying to play with one eye covered up, others who have had but one club against the full set used by their opponents, and others who have agreed to put with nothing but their umbrellas? On one occasion a golfer played a round with champagne bottle against a man who had all his clubs, and it is a sad thing to know that it is on record that the man with the champagne bottle won! There are said to be various Scota who have driven balls off the face of expensive watches without at the same time driving the faces off the watches, and an American variation of this form of golf freakishness, as practiced with much sucess on one occasion, was to drive a ball off the top of a hen's egg, which had been dented at one end to make it hold the ball, but not otherwise damaged

CALLED FOR SLIGHT SEVERITY.

Policy of Kindness.

Lord Lawrence, one of the famous vicerovs of India, was an able and very simple man. He used to do his work in his shirt sleaves, and discouraged as much as possible all state and ceremons. He was inclined to treat the notives like children, abthough be always strenuomdy insisted upon their meriting and receiving justice and kindness. Lord Mayo went to India to succeed him, and on the last afternoon before Lord Lawrence was to leave for home he took the incoming vicercy for a drive. On the way he impressed his doctrine of kindness very emphatically and solemnly on his successor. Lord Mayo thanked him for his helpful advice, and they returned in due course to the government house. The syce or footman, was slow and awkward in opening the door of the carriage, whereupon Lord Lawrence jumped out in temper and gave his ear an unmistakable tug. Lord Mayo turned to the vicercy's aid with a smile. "My first practical lesson in kindness to patives undoubtec-ly is an odd one," he whispered.

Effect of Relaxation. Dr. Long Maybelive Young of Chieago does not agree with us that sleeping on the front is good, says the New York Press. But he seems to be in his own mind an expert on relaxation. "In my opinion," he says, "the want of relaxation is the principal cause of insomnia. To produce relaxation we must first equalize the circulation of the blood. This is very often accomplished by sleeping with the knees up, which throws the blood into the lumbar region. The position is rather tiresome (I should say so!) and on stretching out the legs equalization and therefore relaxation takes place. For insomnta supervening upon nervousness I would advise taking some good, long breaths. When due to want of control of the thinking apparatus eat three or four ginger snaps (ten cents a pound), which will warm up the stomach and transfer the nervous energy to the solar plexus, or stomach brain "

Nurses Dread Lightning. Of all people who are glad when the season of thunderstorms is past, none are more thankful than professional nurses. "It isn't that we are so afraid of lightning ourselves," said a hospital nurse, "but it has a harmful effect on our patients. Most sick people have an unreasoning fear of lightning. In cases of extreme weakness or nervousness a dozen flashes of blinding lightning reduces the patient to such a state of prostration that it takes extraordinary efforts on the part of the nurse to bring him around. If one sick person requires all that extra attention in a thunderstorm, first imagine the predicament of the nurse who has a whole ward full of them on her

German Exactitude. The widow of a German officer presented herself at the office in Berlin for the purpose of drawing the pension due her. She handed in the nee essary certificate from the mayor of the village in which she lived to the effect that she was still alive. certificate is not correct," said the of-ficer in charge. "What is the matter with it?" asked the indy. "It bears the date of September 21," was the stern reply, "and your pension was due on September 15." "What lend of a certificate do you wish?" asked the dis-appointed applicant. "We must have a certificate stating that you were alive on September 15," said the officer with great firmness.

The Reason.

"There goes a man who doesn't get credit at any business establishment in town." "Who? Old Mr. Worthy? Why, I thought he was one of the most reliable men in the city. Why doesn't he get credit?" "Because he always pays cash."

One of the Tests.

"So your daughter made a brilliant marriage?" "Not very," answered Mr. Cumrox. "Your son-in-law is of noble origin?" "Yes. But I could pronounce his name properly the first time I

COUNTRY FOR LIGHT SLEEPERS. | MADE HIS HOME A FORTRESS.

Japan Has No Domestic Animals to Disturb the Siumberer.

The Japanese college girl had been unable to sleep because a dog had howled all night beneath her window. "Now, in Japan," she said, "such a trouble would never happen. We have no animal pets there; we don't even have useful domestic animals, such as cows, sheep and pigs. If the Japanese kept for his pleasure a dog and cat, and then suffered these animals to spend night out of doors, spoiling the neighbors' rest with their uproarwell. I don't know what purishment we'd give him, but it would be somewhat lingering, I fancy, with boiling oil on it. We have no domestic ani-To does and cats we prefer children. Sheep we don't require, for we eat no mutton, and our clothes are made of silk and of cotton instead of Mules and donkeys we don't need, because men do our hauting. Pigs, with their filth, are unknown to us-you couldn't persuade a Japanese to eat pork. We do keep chickens, it is true, but they are always kept far away from any dwelling house. On this account Japan has nights of per-fect queende. It is the best place on earth for sleeping."

The Story of a Left-Handed Woman and Her Timepiece.

Vomen don't deserte to own watches," recently remarked a jewel "They don't know how to take care of them. A women bought a watch from my firm recently and 1 gave her strict instructions to wind it every 24 hours and always at the same hour as nearly as possible. Two days later she came back with it and said it had stopped. Well, I found it had run down. I told her, but she insisted she had wound it. Two or three days later she came back with the same complaint, and again I tried to impress her with the necessity for winding it. Again she insisted she had done so and went away miffed. The third time she came I asked ber to show me how she had wound it. Then I made a peculiar discovery. The woman was left-handed, and in attempting to wind the watch she had been winding it the wrong way. I've had peculiar experiences with contomers, but that beats all."

Beaver on Elk River.

"The impression that the beaver is almost extinct in this country is a mistake," said George H. Hower, of Vancouver, B. C. "On the Elk river, a tributary of the Frager, in my own province, there are this season thousands of these little animals, whose fur is so valuable, building their winter quarters. The Elk river has always been a favorite spot for the beaver, but this year the influx has been so marked that even the most experienced trapper cannot tell whence they came. There are now a large number of trappers on the river engaged in catching them as fast as possible. Most of the skins are shipped San Francisco, while some go to Montreal and Toronto. From these cities they will go to others in all parts of this country and Europe."

Dissecting a Violin.

Not one person in a hundred has the slightest notion of how many parts or pieces there are in a violin. Here is a list of them: Back, 2 pieces; belly, 2; coins and blocks, 6; sides, 5; side-linings, 12; bar, 1; purflings, 24; neck, 1; finger-board, 1; nut, 1; bridge, 1; string for tall-board, 1; guard for string, 1; sound-post, 1; strings, 4; pegs, 4; total, 69 pieces. Three kinds of wood are used-maple, pine and ebony. Maple is used for the back, the neck the side-pieces and the bridge. Pine is used for the belly, the bar, the coins and blocks, the side linings and the sound-post. Ebony is used for the finger-board, the tailboard, the nut, the guard for string of tail-board, the pegs and the button.

Military Epigrams.

Col. Philip Reads, of the Twentythird United States infantry, is the author of the following "epigrams of the range:" "The ultimate of the soldier's profession is to know when and where and how to pull the trigger; other things being equal, that soldier who can bit with measurable accuracy what he aims at is the best coldier;" "the way to learn how to hit is to find out why you miss:" brains must be mixed with gunpow der;" "soldiers who are not good shooters are apt to be turned into good scooters; "most good shots are made good shots by systematic disstruction and practice."

Postmistres, 51 Years

Mrs. Kenward, whose appointment as postmistress at the quaint old post office at Wiveisfield, near Hayward's Heath, dates back to 1846, celebrated ber eighty-eighth birthday the other says the London Standard. Despite her years Mrs. Kenward attends to her own household duties, and is a great reader of the nowspapers. She believes herself to be the oldest postmistress in the country. Her father was a farmer at Speldhurst, near Tunbridge Wells, Mrs. Kenward hopes to become a centenarian and to die in

A Strenuous Task.

"I don't see why you should be excused," the judge said to the witness. "You look well enough." "But jest think of it, yer honor," said the wit-ness, "I've done stood on this here stand an' told the truth fer two hours on a stretch."

Tenant Had Next Way of Shutting Out Undestrable Visitors.

"Alterations to suit tenant" was a part of the sign to a Philadelphia building, telling that a loft over the store was to let. One day lately a prospective tenant applied and expressed himself as pleased with the location and quarters, as well as the terms. As to alterations he had only one thing to suggest, namely, that the stair steps be fixed to the top floor with a pair of stout hinges, and cords be attached so that they might be raised and lowered, in a way best il-Instrated perhaps by the attachments of a fire escape. Anxious to get a tenant and seeing no particular objection to this arrangement, the landlord complied. His tenant, a quiet man, was wont to go to his quarters in the forenoon and at once draw the steps up to the ceiling. A few only of his many visitors, those, in fact, who gave a peculiar whistle, were accommodated by the lowering of the steps. The others were ig-The landlord, fearful lest some unlawful transactions might be going on in his building, called upon the tenant for an explanation. the reply, "my friends have the whistle. The other fellows are cred-WOUND WATCH WRONG WAY. Itors." The hinges are still working.

ICELANDERS ARE LONG LIVED.

Average Age There Double Mean Duration of Human Life.

It would be interesting to know if any part of the world beats icciand in the average length of life of its inhabitants. It is shown in the census of 1905 that on an average the people of that island live to the age of 61.8 years, which is very nearly double the mean duration of human life as it was computed a generation ago. Sweden and Norway are regarded as very healthful countries, but Iceland takes the palm in longevity, the mean duration of life in Sweden being 50.02 years and in Norway 49.94 years. Some of iceland's earthquakes are nerve-racking, but on the whole the lives of most of its simple and industrious inhabitants slip along with few incidents that unduly stimulate or depress the pulse. Summer and winter the same old mail boat from Leith steams into the harbor of Reykjavik every three weeks, but very rarely closely as to make excitement. fact the little island enjoys many of the advantages of citilization and avoids most of its drawbacks.-- Christian Advocate

A Hard Task.

A Chicago man fells of a resident of that city who had been unsuccessful in one venture after another. At last, however, he made a large sum of money by means of an invention in car wheels; and very soon thereafter his family, consisting of his wife and two young daughters, were to be seen taking their daily outing in a motor One day the three were being driven rapidly through the park, while a look of painful self-consciousness overspread the features of the ventor's wife, as she sat bolt upright, looking straight before her. ma," came in clear lones from one of the daughters, whose keen face waz alive with enjoyment, "now, ma. can't you loll back and not look as if the water was boiling over?"-Youth's Companion.

World's Oldest Republics.

So the as practical considerations go Switzerland is the oldest of surviving republics. Two puny republics, however, long antedate the Helvetic confederation and in strict accuracy one of these two must be the oldest republic of all now in existence. One of hem is the republic of San Marino in Italy, on Mount Titano, the oldest state in Europe and one of the smallest in the world. The other is the re-public of Andorra in the Pyrences, made independent by Charlemagne. No fixed date can be assigned to either of these, both are mediaeval relies and San Marino may be identified even before the middle ages began.

Woes of the Druggist. "If you want to meet the limit of remarked a druggist, "you nerve." must keep a drug store. Most people seem to think the place is for public accommodation: without the necessity of any real patronage on their part. We have had a good many nervy requests, but one the other day canned the climax. It was raining hard and woman we didn't know, who lived three blocks away, telephoned us to send her two two-cent postage

Why Letters Are Unwritten.

Why not keep up writing-deak supplies just as conscientiously as those for the pantry? asks a writer. Few households would get along a week without sugar, salt or scap, yet how many letters are unanswered for the lack of a good pen, a stamp or an envelone? It is not the expense, but lack of thought, that keeps an insufficient or meager supply of the neces sary articles on hand.

Dignity of Ownership.

"I saw a sign in a restaurant down at Gallon the other day," said a Cleveland man, "that struck me as an effecive means of upholding the dignity of the establishment. The proprietor of the restaurant is a big man, weighing about 200 pounds and put up like a prize ox. His sign says: 'If You Want to Know Who Runs This Place Just Start Something." - Cleveland Plain Dealer.

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Final Settlement.

lotice is hereby given that the under-NOAH M. KIRKPATRICK, Dec'd, will make a final settlement of said estate at the next term of the Probate Court of St. Francois co.mity. Missouri, to be begon and teld at the Court House in Farmington, in said county, on the second Monday in January, 1908.

JOHN R. EIREPATRICES.

Dec. 13, 1867. Executor.